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FILE NO. 44-5-3-52	SOURCE ZJL-604	DATE OF DOCUMENT 19 Apr 1951	ANALYST <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	
SUBJECT Background on JIS and Japanese Military Personalities			DATE 10 Sept 1953	
<p>PERTINENT INFORMATION</p> <p>Evaluation: F-2 except as stated Source: <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>The following information on Subject, KODAMA Yoshio, has been excerpted verbatim from the above referenced document.</p> <p>3. SAKATA Sadamasa</p> <p>a. SAKATA, OKADA's deputy in the MATSU Kikan, operated extensively in Shanghai during the war years always as a civilian. He came from a very refined and well-to-do family in Japan, and was considered by the Japanese in Shanghai at first (c. 1940) to be very sincere as well as competent. SAKATA's association with KODAMA Yoshio, with well-known Japanese gangsters, and with various Chinese of the Shanghai underworld only gradually became known and the venality and dishonesty of SAKATA only gradually recognized. By that time he was too powerful to eliminate or release. Nevertheless, it must be admitted that SAKATA had a genuine talent for clandestine operations of all sorts, although he was really too indolent and disinterested to worry about producing good intelligence information. Although the greed displayed in his economic operations often hindered the real purpose of his political operations against the Chinese in Shanghai, nevertheless, in some cases, his economic blackmail methods and involvement of Shanghai Chinese business interests served to insure to some extent the loyalty of these personages to the Japanese regime by making it commercially profitable to all concerned as well as to himself. There can be no doubt in the mind of anyone who knew very much at all of his operations that SAKATA thoroughly understood the principles of control, however unscrupulously and avariciously he might have used them.</p> <p>.....</p> <p>10. KODAMA Yoshio</p> <p>a. KODAMA Yoshio's value as an intelligence operative is virtually nil. He is a professional liar, gangster, charlatan, and outright thief. His main objective throughout all his career was to get wealth and personal power for himself, regardless of consequences to his country. He currently enjoys the dubious confidence of certain Foreign Office diplomats along with the former Communist NABEYAMA Sadachika, and also the trust of ARISUE Seizo, who is using KODAMA's present "Kikan" supposedly to gather intelligence. The truth is that KODAMA is completely incapable of intelligence operations, and has no interest in anything but the profits. Even other information brokers are amazed at the boldness of KODAMA's boasts and fabrications of information. Anything coming from KODAMA can be virtually discounted as false, or at least misleading. The Japanese government had the same experience with</p>				
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EXEMPTIONS Section 3(b)
 (2)(A) Privacy ☐
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KODAMA in the past. KODAMA is an expert on smuggling, hijacking, and black market operations. He is a distinct menace, and because of his manipulations of the Japanese underworld, is widely feared and his favor is sought by weak men in high positions.

b. The fact remains, however, that KODAMA is really a person with no courage. As an anecdote to prove that, KODAMA's threat at one time to kill Source is a good example. In 1939, it is believed, Source met KODAMA through TSUJI Masanobu, then on duty in South China, who was temporarily quite "sold" on KODAMA's slick-talking description of his own ability and that of his "kikan". Source told TSUJI what he knew of KODAMA at Shanghai and said that KODAMA was next to worthless. They met. KODAMA politely listened to Source's expressed opinions against the war with China being continued, which were of course Pan-Asian. KODAMA listened with rapt attention, and was apparently overcome by the logic. He begged to be permitted to work for Source, "for life." Source deferred. Shortly after that, Source had occasion to write a very unfavorable report on some of the nefarious activities of the KODAMA group. When KODAMA, then at Nanking, heard of this, he first tried to make Source appear as a traitor for supporting Pan-Asian views against the Government's war policy and charged him with collusion with Lt. General ISHIHARA Kanji's DAI TOA REMMEI. These charges were groundless, and Source's opinions against the China War were well known anyway. That failing, KODAMA threatened several times to kill Source as soon as he returned to Shanghai. Source's friends, knowing KODAMA's underworld connections were great, called Source from Nanking to advise him to "take a vacation in Japan" for a while. Source laughingly refused. KODAMA returned to Shanghai, preceded by a messenger-friend of Source's warning him of it. Source waited watchfully. KODAMA several weeks later sent Source a book he had written and asked him to comment on KODAMA's opinions in it and asked if they might meet again. Source sent back a thinly veiled warning that KODAMA had better not try any rough tactics, but obliged by briefly scanning and commenting on KODAMA's manuscript. KODAMA did not press the question of an interview, and whenever they met after that, was completely docile and almost fawningly polite to Source. In other words, Source's feeling is that although KODAMA is admittedly a very dangerous man, if proper controls or even a show of strength are applied, because he lacks any real courage, he becomes ineffective.

THIS IS ALL THE INFORMATION PERTINENT
TO THE SUBJECT IN THIS DOCUMENT.

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KODAMA Yoshio

Subject with OKAWA Shumei, JUZUO Yoshihisa, SASAKAWA Ryoichi released from prison by the allies and charges against them of being class "A" war criminals were dropped. These men reported to be planning in secret the reconstruction of the Japanese military. "Their initial aim is the organization of a volunteer corps to join the Chinese Nationalists in their defense of Formosa and then to gradually increase the size and equipment of the group until it becomes a power for whose service both the East and West will bid prior to the inevitable World War III." (ZJN-71 Encl. #1, 10 March 1950; [] dossier.)

KODAMA Yoshio is a member of an organization called the "Sino-Japanese Alliance", a new espionage ring to operate against China and supported by the Intelligence Dept. of SCAP in Tokyo. (FBI, Tokyo, Peking, 24 Feb 51).

IWAKURO

KODAMA Kikan men are principally made up of KODAMA's old Kempei associates such as Colonel KAWAI of the Sarge Case, the NAKANO Intelligence School Clique (wherein KODAMA and IWAKURO Takeo cross wires), and the present Civil Service Board of the Japanese government. Through this latter agency, KODAMA will have considerable to do with influencing selection of the new Reserve Police Force officers. (Ref. ZJL-442, 8 Sept 50; [] CE File III - 33)

ARISUE is the chief object of enmity from the Navy-Foreign Office-Moderates point of view, but his longtime semi-autonomous subordinate, MATANABE Wataru, and his newest henchman, the notorious KODAMA Yoshio, are hated almost as much, and for many of the same reasons. Subject is hated particularly by the former Japanese Navy men, who utilized his civilian wartime "kikan" in their operations, because of graft he carried out against their budget then and because of post-war charges he made overtly against the Navy and his appropriation of one million dollars worth of radium and drugs because "they did not pay for operational work done for them". In addition, he is generally despised though feared as a thorough gangster and racketeer, however successful at such vocations. (Ref. ZJL-483, 13 Nov 50; [] CE File III - 33)

New China News Agency dispatch released in Hong Kong on 13 Oct 50 re "American espionage" in China, reports that on MacArthur's order, the TYU KO SHI (revival group), a Japanese fascist organization, has been revived and war criminals such as subject have been recruited for secret agents and traitors. (WDGS report #ID724564, 18 Oct 50, filed JIS-Willoughby)

A kikan of the Japanese Underground Government (JUG) is planning the "reconstruction of Japan" centered about Prince CHICHIBU, KUHARA Fusanosuke and KODAMA Yoshio. (Source: [] Mar 51). KODAMA and TSUJI Masanobu are absorbed to the utmost in the JUG's current rearmament plans. [] Jan 51) (Ref. ZJL-596-B, [] CE File Japanese Rearmament)

See: ZJLA-1473, 11 May 1951, CE File III - I

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KODAMA Yoshio

Is one of the important members of the Un-Japanese Activities Committee's Preparatory, which is currently engaged in investigative activities. (Ref. ZJL-256, Report B, CE File III - 32).

In regard to NABEYAMA Sadachika's (qv) activities in behalf of the KODAMA KIKAN, he is cooperating with KODAMA Yoshio in anti-communist activities and for this he is furnished funds by the KODAMA KIKAN. . . (Ref. ZJL-294, Report D, 24 Mar 50, [] dossier).

Former Chief of the KODAMA TWKK Unit, notorious in internal CI operations; arrested as war criminal, but freed. Is a member of the Far Eastern Economics Research Society (qv), covert recruiting and intelligence-gathering organ. (Ref. ZJLA-818, 23 Feb 50, CE File III - 36).

TAJIRI Masanobu of the Japanese Underground Govt. is reported to be currently residing in a place belonging to KODAMA Yoshio. (Ref. ZJL-382-D, 10 Aug 50, CE dossier on TAJIRI Masanobu; [] [])

The following person are reported to be members of the KODAMA Yoshio KIKAN's TAIKO Trading K.K.:

Chairman (KAICHO) - TAJIRI Tomoyoshi, former vice-minister of the now defunct Greater East Asia Ministry

Advisers - SUGIHARA Arata, ex-chief of the Treaty Bureau, Foreign Min.

FUJIIYAMA Aiichiro, president of Japan Chemical Co.

President - KIKUCHI Takeo, former Lt. General

(Ref. ZJL-427-D, 31 Aug 50, CE File III - 36; [] [])

KODAMA KIKAN member KAHIDA Toru (whose pen name is IKEDA Tadashi) is an operative of the Japanese underground govt; he maintains contact with former General and Prince HIGASHIKUNI. It is apparent that he obtains information pertaining to the Far East Cominform from SHIONOYA Kotaro of 9-banchi, 1-chome, Kobiki-cho, Chuo-ku, Tokyo-to. (Ref. ZJL-378-C, 28 July 50, CE File III - 45.1; [] [])